



# A change of fate in every page



18 2 4

## Chapter 1 by Cora Aquila

Squeezed in a corner of the world's thinnest and most cramped alleyway, there was a book shop. Dusty would be the right word to describe it, but mostly it was every bibliophile's dream. One could say it was constructed with the books themselves for no walls could be seen apart from piles and bookshelves. Dust and light danced inside crafting the illusion of time standing still.

Apart from the terrible localisation, it was strange that this tiny shop was still open to business. Never had one customer left without a book tucked on their arms. Never any of them wanted to change what they bought. Never in the history of consumerism there was a higher happy customer rate.

And yet.

No one ever entered the book shop a second time. No one ever talked about it. Once they left, it was like the place had vanished. The only remaining hint of its existence was the book purchased.

Somehow, that one book always changes its owner's life. Completely. Irrevocably. Almost as if by magic.

## Chapter 2 by intellikat



The owner was a scrawny old man and when I arrived that cold, blustery day in February he was replenishing his stock. I knew this because he told me so.

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What can I find for you?

Erm. I'm a bit uncomfortable in saying this.

Oh, don't mind that. You couldn't possibly imagine the requests I've heard over the year. But trust me, I do have whatever you may be looking for.

I'm a rather bad... I'm rather poor... at making love, I said.

Oh, tush. You're uncomfortable about that? Certainly a noble quest, young man. Let me see what I can find you. It is the ladies, you fancy?

Yes, sir. Yes.

Well. Good. Good on you. The world could use a few more informed lovers, you see.

He pulled what looked a tome from a shelf.

Now, it looks like a lot, but I'm sure you'll find it's a quick read. Hehe. Just make sure your lovemaking isn't as terse.

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